

In the Claims:

- 1.(currently amended) A compressed water-softening composition comprising at least one water-softening active and a blend of disintegrating agents comprising:
a cross linked polyplasdone;
a water swellable cellulose and, optionally ~~optionally~~,
a water soluble salt.
- 2.(currently amended) A compressed water-softening composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein the composition is substantially free of surfactant or ~~and/or~~ bleach ingredients.
- 3.(currently amended) A compressed water-softening composition according to as claimed in ~~claimed in~~ claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the blend of disintegrating agents is present in an amount of up to 10% by weight of the composition.
- 4.(currently amended) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim ~~as claimed in~~ 3 wherein the blend of disintegrating agents is present in an amount of at least 0.1% by weight of the composition.
- 5.(currently amended) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 ~~as claimed in any claim from 1 to 5~~ wherein the water-soluble salt has a solubility of at least 50g/100g of deionised water at 20°C.
- 6.(currently amended) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 ~~as claimed in any claim from 1 to 6~~ wherein the water-swellable cellulose has a water uptake of at least 15g of deionised water at 20 °C per g of water-swellable cellulose.

- 7.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the water-softening active is selected from the group: ion exchange agents, ion capture agents, and anti-nucleating agents.
- 8.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the cross linked polyplasdne is present in an amount of up to 1.4%wt. of the said composition.
- 9.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the cross linked polyplasdne is present in an amount of up to 95%wt. of the blend of disintegrating agents.
- 10.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the water-swellaable cellulose is present in an amount of up to 1.4%wt. of the said composition.
- 11.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 1 wherein the water-swellaable cellulose is present in an amount of up to 95%wt. of the blend of disintegrating agents.
- 12.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 herein the blend of disintegrating agents is present in an amount of up to 10% by weight of the composition.
- 13.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the blend of disintegrating agents is present in an amount of at least 0.1% by weight of the composition.

- 14.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the water-soluble salt has a solubility of at least 50g/100g of deionised water at 20°C.
- 15.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the water-swellaable cellulose has a water uptake of at least 15g of deionised water at 20 °C per g of water-swellaable cellulose.
- 16.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the water-softening active is selected from the group: ion exchange agents, ion capture agents, and anti-nucleating agents.
- 17.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 2 wherein the composition comprises less than 5% by weight of a surfactant or bleach ingredients.
- 18.(new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 17 wherein the composition comprises less than 1% by weight of a surfactant or bleach ingredients.
19. (new) A compressed water-softening composition according to claim 18 wherein the composition comprises 0% by weight of a surfactant or bleach ingredients.